



STATE OF UTAH CAPITOL PRESERVATION BOARD

Governor Jon M. Huntsman Jr., Chair
David H. Hart, AIA, Executive Director

Senate Murals Project RFQ April 26, 2006



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR MURAL ARTISTS

FOR
*Oil-on-canvas Murals for the
Senate Chamber*

OF THE
Utah State Capitol Building

REQUESTED BY
*Utah State Senate
Murals Selection Committee*

Introduction

The Murals Selection Committee of the Utah State Senate (Murals Committee) invites artists (Artist), as part of a two-part process, to submit a complete Portfolio of Qualifications (Portfolio) for consideration and evaluation by the Murals Committee.

Only artists qualified by the Murals Committee will then be asked to participate in the second part of the process: namely, to produce a Concept, Design and Budget Proposal (Proposal) for a commission to create an approximately 9' x 14' oil-on-canvas mural (including all costs associated with painting as well as installation) for the Senate Chamber in the Utah State Capitol Building. (See Figures 1 and 2.)

The subject and style of the mural shall be consistent with the Chamber, the existing murals in the Chamber, and the Beaux-Arts (or Renaissance Revival) architecture of the building itself.

In selecting a qualified artist, the Murals Committee will follow the guidelines and imperatives established by the Capitol Art Placement Subcommittee of the Capitol Preservation Board. (See Attachment A: Summary of Guidelines and Imperatives.)

Definitions

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

This document, which is the official call for artists interested in submitting a Proposal to paint a mural for the Senate Chamber of the Utah State Capitol, is titled a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Interested artists are requested to submit a response to this RFQ in the form of a Request for Qualifications Portfolio (Portfolio) to the Murals Committee that demonstrates the Artist's experience and qualifications. The required contents of the Portfolio as well as dates for submission are listed in this document on pages 5 and 7 respectively. **The Murals Committee will not evaluate additional materials or substitutions for the contents of the RFQ.**

Request for Proposals (RFP)

The Murals Committee will review and evaluate all Portfolio responses to the RFQ submitted by the published deadline of this document. A list of qualified Finalists will be compiled based upon the Murals Committee

review and scoring of the required RFQ Portfolio. The Murals Committee will select a minimum of three (3) but no more than six (6) artists (Finalists) who may proceed to Request for Proposals (RFP) phase of the selection process.

All artists submitting a Portfolio will be notified in writing of the Murals Committee's decision.

Finalists will be requested to respond to a Request for Proposals (Proposal), which shall include an appropriately scaled oil color sketch of the proposed mural, a written narrative about the work, and a work plan and fee proposal.

The subjects of the new murals will be presented to the Finalists chosen to submit Proposals.

Senate Chamber Murals

The existing two murals in the Senate Chamber are oil-on-canvas paintings installed over coved prepared plaster surfaces that transition between east and west walls and the ceiling of the Chamber. Architect Kletting made no notes on the Chamber murals. However, in the 1916 Capitol Commission report indicates that the House and Senate Chambers murals were included in the Phillip Dern Decorative Painting contract. The Senate Chamber mural was painted by Lee Greene Richards and A. B. Wright, both of Salt Lake City.

Murals compatible with the existing murals will be painted and installed in concave framed panels (approximately 9' x 14') in the corresponding east and west transitional spaces. This document provides drawings showing scale and placement of the new murals. (See Attachment B: Scale Drawings of Senate Chamber Cove Ceiling). The newly commissioned murals will be required to compliment the palette, content, and style of the existing murals. No abstract designs will be considered.

Finalists may submit Proposals for either or both murals but the Murals Committee seeks to commission two artists, one for each mural.

Capitol Preservation Board (Board)

The Capitol Preservation Board is an oversight and directive body, empowered by the Utah State Legislature and comprised of elected officials and qualified appointed professionals, charged with the restoration and seismic stabilization of the Utah State Capitol. In 2005, the Board approved a Master Plan for Art Placement in the restored Capitol. The Plan, prepared by the Capitol Art Placement Subcommittee, directs that two murals be added to the Senate Chamber's design and decoration.

The Murals Selection Committee of the Utah State Senate (Murals Committee)

The Senate of the State of Utah has appointed representatives and at-large members to a committee charged with the responsibility to commission and supervise to completion of two murals for the Senate Chamber.

Interested artists or their surrogates should be advised that no contact with any member of the Murals Committee is allowed during the entire selection (RFQ and RFP) process and any such contact by artists or their surrogates will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the artist. All communications regarding the process must go through Judith McConkie, Curator of the Capitol. Contact information is detailed in this document.

Beaux-Art Style

The Utah State Capitol building was designed as a classical turn-of-the-century Beaux-Art style building. Characteristics of the style include classic interior and exterior proportions; three-part façade divisions; Greco-Roman columns and capitals, colonnades, terraces, entablatures, rotunda spaces, decorative motifs, etc. Excellent materials and traditional architectural details are part of the overall design. The Senate Chamber is consistent with that style. (See Figures 1 and 2.)

Part I – Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Section I – Concept

Upon completion of the five-year Capitol Restoration Project, the Capitol will reopen in December of 2007. By or before July of 2006, in connection with the project, the Capitol Preservation Board, working for the Senate will commission at least one but no more than two Artists to

design, paint and install two murals for placement in the Senate Chamber of the Capitol Building between January 1 and March 1, 2007.

The Capitol Curator/Registrar (Curator) will coordinate efforts with the Murals Committee to facilitate the selection of qualified artists who will proceed to the RFP phase of the project.

Section II – Specifications and Procedures

NOTE: Artists desiring qualification should not submit oil sketches or other detailed preliminary work in this round of the process. Rather, interested Artists must submit the items described below on or before the date specified in Section IV (Deadlines and Calendar).

The Qualifications Portfolio Required Contents

1. One (1) current resume or similar document of no more than three (3) pages detailing relevant experience.
2. Up to 15 slides or digital images (TIFF or JPG format only) of recent and/or relevant work. (Photographic prints or negatives are not acceptable. Submit only highest quality/resolution images. Include detail views.)
3. Three (3) references with complete contact information from the Artists' most recent or relevant projects.
4. A letter of interest with a discussion of style, conceptual theme development, black and white preliminary renderings no larger than 8 ½ x 11 of **possible** ideas, and the Artist's ability to complete the project by the deadline.
5. **Optional:** A maximum of three (3) selections of supporting materials (reviews, news articles, gallery guides, etc.)

- A. The president of the Utah State Senate will appoint a Murals Selection Committee consisting of members of the Utah State Senate, the Capitol Preservation Board and/or its subcommittees, and the staff of the Executive Director and Capitol Architect's Office.

- B. All Artists seeking to submit design Proposals must be pre-qualified by the Murals Committee. Portfolios of Qualifications must be submitted to the Capitol Preservation Board Offices by 2:00 p.m. on May 23, 2006. The location of the Office is listed below. Portfolios may be mailed but neither the Senate nor the Capitol Preservation Board is responsible for delayed delivery, etc. All materials become the property of the State of Utah.
- C. The Murals Committee will develop the list of qualified Artists through a ballot process designed to compute all individual Murals Committee members' scores (See Section III: Evaluation Criteria) for each Portfolio submission and rank the Portfolios by highest to lowest cumulative scores.
- D. The Murals Committee will then develop a list of at least three (3) and no more than six (6) Artists to be designated as Finalists to compete for the commission to paint each mural.
- E. **All Artists will be notified in writing of the results and Finalists will be asked to submit formal Proposals.**

Section III – Evaluation Criteria

The Committee's general review of the Portfolios will employ the following criteria and scoring:

- Is the artistic excellence and originality, as evidenced by past work in slides and other supporting materials, sufficient to qualify the artist for the Proposal phase?
- Is the Artist's preferred medium, style, and experience appropriately related to the project goals as determined by the consensus of the Murals Committee?
- Based on the Portfolio, can the artist respond creatively and uniquely to site-specific design challenges, including the spatial limitations imposed by the location of the murals?

Quantitative Portfolio Evaluation Criteria		
• Slides and/or images of previous projects		30 points
• Conceptual development of subject, schedule, cost projections and ability to complete the project on time		30 points
• Overall evaluation		<u>40 points</u>
	Total points available	100 points

Section IV – Deadlines and Calendar

Task or Event	Deadline
Advertisement for Requests for Qualifications Portfolios	May 7 – 21, 2006
Requests for Qualifications Portfolios due at Capitol Preservation Board (CPB) offices by 2:00 p.m.	May 23, 2006
Selection Committee review, selection and notification of Finalist Artists	May 30, 2006

Portfolios should be hand-delivered or mailed to:

Capitol Preservation Board
420 North State Street
110 Senate (East) Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
Attention: Judith McConkie, Curator of the Capitol

Address questions on Portfolios to (801) 538-3074.

Artists wishing to submit Portfolios must provide a complete and timely application. No Portfolios may be emailed or faxed. No Portfolios received after 2 p.m. on May 23, 2006, will be considered and will be returned without opening.

The Board will not be responsible for late or misdirected mail.

All materials become the property of the State of Utah.

Part II – Request for Proposals (RFP)

Section I – Concept

Only upon notification in writing, will selected Finalists be invited to participate in Phase II of the project (Request for Proposals).

Qualified artists will be invited to attend an informational meeting on June 2, 2006, at the Utah State Capitol. At that date the Finalists will be provided with packets detailing the requirements for the Request for Proposals (Proposals) part of the process, including

- Evaluation structure and criteria
- Topics for murals
- Media specifications and architectural plans for the Chamber
- Guidelines and specifications for work plan

Absolutely no decisions of the Committee will be communicated by phone or email. However, the following deadlines will be strictly adhered to in the Proposal phase of the project.

Section II – Deadlines and Calendar

Task or Event	Deadline
Mandatory meeting for qualified semifinalist Artists to discuss Proposal process and/or RFP distributed to qualified artists.	June 2, 2006
Formal Proposals including oil sketches, written narratives, work plans and fee schedules due at Capitol Preservation Board offices before 2:00 pm	June 23, 2006
Murals Committee meets to select mural artists for Senate Chamber; notification of selected artists (in writing)	June 26 – July 7, 2006
Formal recommendations on winning Artists to Senate and Capitol Art Placement Subcommittee	July 11, 2006

Artists selected as Finalists must provide a complete and timely Proposal (described above in Phase II). No Finalist's Proposals may be emailed or faxed. No Finalists' Proposals received after 2 p.m. on June 23, 2006, will be considered and will be returned without opening.

The Board will not be responsible for late or misdirected mail.

All submitted materials become the property of the State of Utah.



Figure 1. Shipler Collection photo showing north (with existing mural) and east walls of Senate Chamber

Figure 2. Senate Chamber existing mural detail